

**Applicant:** Falone et al.  
**Application No.:** 10/067,594

### **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-31, without prejudice, and add new claims 32-57. A complete listing of the claims follows.

Claims 1-31 cancelled.

Claim 32 (New): A vibration absorbing grip cover for a handle of an implement, comprising:

a sleeve having an upper end and a lower end, the upper end being open to permit a portion of the handle of the implement to extend therethrough, wherein the sleeve is a multi-layer laminate comprising:

an inner layer of elastomeric vibration absorbing material which is free of voids therein;

a layer including a fiberglass material and that is disposed on the inner layer, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening;

an outermost elastomeric layer having a pliable outer surface that facilitates a user gripping the sleeve during use of the implement, and

an outwardly extending peripheral knob portion forms the lower end of the sleeve.

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Claim 33 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, wherein an inner surface of the lower end of the sleeve is recessed having a contour conforming to an outer surface of the knob portion adapted to be disposed over a knob at the end of the implement handle.

Claim 34 (New): The grip cover of claim 33, in combination with a baseball bat having a knob at one of its ends, and the cover being fitted over the baseball bat with the knob of the bat disposed in the knob of the cover.

Claim 35 (New): The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the thickness of the sleeve at the lower end is greater than the thickness of the sleeve at the remaining portions of the sleeve.

Claim 36 (New): The grip cover of claim 35, in combination with an implement having a handle, the handle terminating in an end which is free of any knob, and the sleeve being mounted over the handle.

Claim 37 (New): The grip cover of claim 36, wherein the implement is an article of athletic equipment.

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**Claim 38 (New):** The grip cover of claim 32, including a further inner layer made from force dissipating stiffening material.

**Claim 39 (New):** The grip cover of claim 38, wherein the fiberglass material is a layer in open mesh form.

**Claim 40 (New):** The grip cover of claim 38, wherein the outer gripping layer is made of vibration absorbing material.

**Claim 41 (New):** The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the sleeve tapers inwardly from the upper end to the lower end at the location of the knob.

**Claim 42 (New)** The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms an imperforate sheet that is disposed within the elastomeric layer.

**Claim 43 (New)** The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms a plurality of individual strips that are substantially parallel to each other.

**Claim 44 (New)** The grip cover of claim 43, wherein the plurality of individual strips are generally equally sized.

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Claim 45 (New) The grip cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms an open mesh sheet.

Claim 46 (New) The cover of claim 32, wherein the fiberglass material forms a plurality of individual strips of different sizes that are substantially parallel to each other.

Claim 47 (New): A vibration absorbing material, comprising:  
an inner layer formed by an elastomer that is substantially free of voids therein;  
a layer including a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, the fiberglass material comprising a plurality of individual strips of fiberglass of different sizes, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening, the elastomeric layer being substantially free of voids therein;  
an outermost layer that is disposed on the layer including the fiberglass material, the outermost layer being formed by an elastomer that is substantially free of voids.

Claim 48 (New) The material of claim 47 wherein the outermost layer and the layer including the fiberglass material are generally of equal thickness.

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**Claim 49 (New):** A vibration absorbing material comprising:

an inner layer formed by an elastomer;

a layer including a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, the fiberglass material comprising a plurality of individual strips of fiberglass of generally equal sizes, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening, the plurality of individual fiberglass strips being generally parallel to each other;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the layer including the fiberglass material and is substantially free of voids therein.

**Claim 50 (New)** The material of claim 49 wherein the outermost layer and the elastomeric layer are generally of equal thickness.

**Claim 51 (New):** A vibration absorbing material, comprising:

an inner layer formed by an elastomer;

a layer which includes a fiberglass material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, wherein the fiberglass material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening, the elastomeric layer being substantially free of voids therein;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the layer that includes the fiberglass material, the outermost layer being formed by an elastomer.

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**Claim 52 (New):** A vibration absorbing material, comprising:

an inner layer formed by an elastomer;

a layer which includes a high tensile strength fibrous material therein and that is disposed on the inner layer, wherein the high tensile strength fibrous material distributes vibration to facilitate vibration dampening;

an outermost layer that is disposed on the layer including the high tensile strength fibrous material, the outermost layer being formed by an elastomer, wherein at least one of the inner and outermost layers is substantially free of voids.

**Claim 53 (New)** The grip cover of claim 52, wherein the high tensile strength fibrous material forms an imperforate sheet that is disposed within the layer.

**Claim 54 (New)** The grip cover of claim 52, wherein the high tensile strength fibrous material forms a plurality of individual strips that are substantially parallel to each other, the plurality of individual strips are disposed within the layer.

**Claim 55 (New)** The grip cover of claim 54, wherein the plurality of individual strips are generally equally sized.

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**Claim 56 (New)** The grip cover of claim 52, wherein the high tensile strength fibrous material forms an open mesh sheet.

**Claim 57 (New)** The cover of claim 52, wherein the high tensile strength fibrous material forms a plurality of individual strips of different sizes that are substantially parallel to each other, the plurality of individual strips are disposed within the layer.